

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 AID-05

OMB-01 EB-07 /065 W

----- 049409

R 160810Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8812

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 0272

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR ASEAN MY XC

SUBJ: ASEAN SECRETARIAT

REF: A. STATE 006183 (NOTAL)

B. KL 0035

1. IN BRIEF CONVERSATION JAN 15, FOREIGN MINISTRY PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY (MARZUKI) TOLD EMBOFF THAT PATTAYA MEETING ON ASEAN SECRETARIAT JAN 6 - 8 (REF B) RESULTED IN DECISION TO CREATE SMALL SECRETARIAT, HEADQUARTERED IN JAKARTA, TO SERVE AS COORDINATING BODY FOR SPECIALIZED COMMITTEES AND OTHER ACTIVITIES SUCH AS PARLIAMENTARY AND CULTURAL GROUPS. MARZUKI SAID THAT SECRETARIAT WOULD BE "POST OFFICE" TYPE ARRANGEMENT AND WOULD NOT HAVE ANY EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY ITSELF.

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF SECRETARIAT (IT UNCLEAR WHETHER HE WILL BE

CALLED "SECRETARY-GENERAL" OR "EXECUTIVE SECRETARY") WOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO SPEAK AND ACT IN NAME OF SECRETARIAT ONLY, AND WOULD NOT BE EMPOWERED TO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF ASEAN NATIONS COLLECTIVELY. POLICY AND DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY WILL CONTINUE TO BE VESTED IN ASEAN MINISTERIAL GROUP.

2. COMMENT: MALAYSIA, THAILAND AND SINGAPORE, WHO WERE KNOWN TO FAVOR SMALL SECRETARIAT WITH LIMITED AUTHORITY, SEEM TO HAVE PREVAILED OVER INDONESIA AND PHILIPPINES WHO ADVOCATED LARGER AND MORE PRESTIGIOUS BODY.
UNDERHILL

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